

A person convicted of a Class A misdemeanor may be incarcerated for up to one year. Misdemeanants are housed in one of Kentucky's 78 full service jails or five life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, each additional inmate increases facility costs by an estimated average of \$31.34 per day. While the majority of misdemeanor defendants are granted bail, those who do not will also cost local jails an average of \$31.34 per day.

When a court denies bail to a Class D or Class C felony defendant, the local government is responsible for incarcerating the defendant until disposition of the case in one of Kentucky's 78 full service jails or five life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, each additional inmate increases facility costs by an estimated average of \$31.34 per day.

Upon sentencing, a Class D felon is housed in one of Kentucky's full service jails for the duration of his or her sentence. Class C felons are ineligible for placement in local jails until they are classified at the lowest custody level with 18 months or less to their minimum expiration date or parole eligibility date. The Department of Corrections pays a jail \$31.34 per day to house a D and C felon. Since the per diem pays for the estimated average cost of housing a Class D felon, the per diem may be less than, equal to, or greater than the actual housing cost.

Data Source(s): Kentucky Department of Corrections; LRC staff

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